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ANOMALOUS MUSCLE OF THE THORAX, CONNECTED
WITH THE DIAPHRAGM. By FRANCIS J. SHEPHERD,
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IN a well developed male subject which was dissected during last winter was found the following muscle :—

On removing the left lung and parietal pleura, a long flat ribbon-shaped muscle was seen running down the left side of the bodies of the dorsal vertebræ ; it arose from the anterior surface of the head of the sixth and seventh ribs, near the vertebral articulation, by a fleshy origin half a centimetre wide. As the muscle descended it became broader, until it reached a width of two and one-half centimetres. It ended in two slips, the most posterior becoming tendinous, and then again muscular, blended finally with the lesser arcuate ligament of the left side ; the anterior slip, which was muscular to its termination, but had a tendinous intersection, was continued with the left crus of the diaphragm, becoming blended with it.

Anomalous muscles connected with the diaphragm are rare, and I have been unable to discover a case similar to the one above described. The significance of this muscle I am at a loss to determine. Might it not be a remnant of what Prof. Sir Geo. Humphry calls the *sub-vertebral rectus* which is found in the Japanese salamander, of which the crura of the diaphragm forms the lumbar remnant in mammals?